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Teen Runaway Pursues Flint Serial Killer in New Noir Novel

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chicago, IL / August 23, 2010 – Author Connor Coyne is proud to announce the publication of his debut novel ***Hungry Rats*** (\$16 / Gothic Funk Press). Described as "an emotional and aesthetic tour de force" by Heartland Prize-winning author Jeffery Allen, the 256-page novel follows a teenage runaway as she hunts a notorious serial killer through the streets of Flint, Michigan. The novel will be available for purchase at www.hungryrats.com on 9/1/2010 and by order at retail outlets worldwide by 11/1/2010.

In ***Hungry Rats***, a serial killer – dubbed the "Rat Man" because he leaves dead rats at the scenes of his crimes – has paralyzed the community with fear. Meredith Malady, a high-school girl from a deeply dysfunctional family sees a common thread between her own fear of rats and the methods of the Rat Man. She runs away from home, believing that she can track him down, but what will happen when she meets the Rat Man face to face? Told in second-person, the novel puts the reader in the role of an unknown narrator who speaks to Meredith throughout the story.

Drafted in 2003 and slated for publication in late 2010, the release of ***Hungry Rats*** coincides with the appearance of an actual serial killer in Flint, a bizarre coincidence that persists to the extent that the suspected real killer, the novel's heroine, and Coyne himself have all lived on the same street in Flint. Despite these realities, Coyne has told his backers that he is moving forward because "our fictions, light and dark... are how we understand and relate to one another." Coyne will donate all of his profits through the end of 2010 to the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan.

About the Author

Connor Coyne has been published in *Santa Clara Review*, *Moria Poetry Zine*, the Flint *Broadside*, *Dick Pig Review*, and *The Saturnine Detractor*. He has contributed to the literary blog *bkish*, is a cofounder of Chicago's Gothic Funk Nation, and is the editor-in-chief of its arts journal, *The Paramanu Pentaquark*. For more information, or to schedule an interview with Connor Coyne, please call 312.285.0676 or send an email to skylar@gothicfunk.org. Review copies are available to the media on request.

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